



# EGG & POULTRY NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

ISSN 1520-6114

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2006  
VOL. 57 NO. 13

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL EGG REVIEW



Throughout the week all prices were unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady. Retail demand was moderate to good, best into features. Food service movement was light. Supplies were fully adequate to at times ample. Breaking stock prices were unchanged to one cent lower while checks and undergrades were unchanged. Offerings were adequate with a quiet demand. Floor stocks were reported as mostly adequate. Schedules were full-time to at times reduced. Trade sentiment was steady to barely steady. Spent hen removal costs were unchanged. Offerings were adequate to instances fully adequate with a fairly good demand. The trade sentiment was steady. Removal prices continued to be 2-10 cents, mostly 5-9 cents per head.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

**MIDWEST REGIONAL** Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Retail demand was moderate to good with the best interest coming from features that are being planned for next week. Food service movement was usually light. Supplies were fully adequate to ample for current needs. Central States breaking stock prices ranged unchanged to 1 cent lower. Offerings were adequate for the light to at times moderate demand. Floor stocks were in balance to adequate. Schedules were full time to reduced. Trade sentiment steady to barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	66-75	69-72
LARGE	65-74	67-70
MEDIUM	42-51	44-47

MIDWEST AREA: IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, OH, NE, ND, SD, WI, WV, Western NY, and Western PA

**NORTHEAST REGIONAL** Prices continued unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Demand into all channels ranged light to good. Supplies were fully adequate to available for current trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were limited for the light to moderate demand. Spent hens were at least adequate for processing requirements.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	72-86	75-79
LARGE	68-82	73-77
MEDIUM	44-57	49-51

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

### COMBINED REGIONAL

Mar 24, 2006

Average prices on sales to volume buyers, Grade A Large or better, White eggs in cartons, delivered warehouse, cents per dozen.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	77.00	75.00	50.00
SOUTHEAST	77.50	75.50	50.00
MIDWEST	70.50	68.50	45.50
SOUTH CENTRAL	78.50	77.50	52.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	75.98	74.25	49.62

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR LOOSE EGGS AT FARM, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, CENTS PER DOZEN			
	03-28-06	03-21-06	03-29-05
Large	47-56	47-56	20-29
Medium	24-30	24-30	6-12

## WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT- MARCH 27, 2006

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/  
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO		SO		SO		5-Area
		Northeast	CENT	CENT	Atl	Pacific		
Jumbo	Curr Wk	13.0	27.2	10.2	14.2	16.3	80.9	
	Change	2.4	3.4	0.1	0.6	1.2	11%	
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	37.1	60.7	14.0	32.1	47.0	190.9	
	Change	11.5	6.3	0.0	0.4	-5.4	7%	
Large	Curr Wk	60.7	211.4	106.3	139.5	161.3	679.2	
	Change	7.3	50.8	12.8	4.7	25.4	17%	
Medium	Curr Wk	14.4	41.4	18.4	20.0	37.0	131.2	
	Change	-0.1	-8.3	-1.7	-3.4	7.3	-5%	
Small	Curr Wk	7.1	8.9	2.5	5.4	7.3	31.2	
	Change	1.0	-4.1	1.1	0.2	2.7	3%	
Misc	Curr Wk	2.5	24.9	8.5	11.6	5.5	53.0	
	Change	0.5	1.4	-1.5	0.2	1.4	4%	
Ungraded	Curr Wk	27.1	60.6	29.2	39.2	34.3	190.4	
	Change	-2.7	6.5	2.9	3.5	-1.4	5%	
Total	Curr Wk	161.9	435.1	189.1	262.0	308.7	1356.8	
Percent	Change	14%	15%	8%	2%	11%	10%	
TOTAL		Number of Cases		Percent Change		Number of Cooperators		

Shell Egg	1356.8	10%	167
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	239.5	2%	35

Total Shell Egg	1596.3	9%	202
-----------------	--------	----	-----

1/ Information supplied by a universe of 167 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. This is a representative sample of the U.S. inventory and includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers. No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

### Shell Egg Inventory Prior to Easter

	2006	2005	2004	2003
Easter Date	4/16	3/27	4/11	4/20
Mar 20, 2006 4 weeks prior	1229.8	1236.2	1100.6	1162.1
Mar 27, 2006 3 weeks prior	1356.8	1298.5	1310.4	1275.9
Apr 03, 2006 2 weeks prior		1329.2	1489.3	1286.0
Apr 10, 2006 1 week prior		1075.0	1243.4	933.2
Apr 17, 2006 first Mon after		847.6	843.8	676.5

(A graph of this data in pdf format can be accessed on the AMS Poultry Market News website at:  
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/poultry/mncs/stats.htm>)

\*\*\*\*\*  
Northeast - CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT  
North Central - IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI  
South Central - AR, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX  
South Atlantic - AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV  
Pacific - AZ, CA, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY

**EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION - W/E 25-MAR-06**(LBS IN THOUSANDS)  
(EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
CW	1,239,494	31,356	11,055	5,975	2,220	4,254
PW	1,202,933	30,660	10,727	5,818	2,325	4,029
LY	1,278,298	29,793	12,772	7,075	2,919	4,355
% Chg PWK	3%	2%	3%	3%	-5%	6%
% Chg LY	-3%	5%	-13%	-16%	-24%	-2%
2006	15,175,520	373,676	141,643	77,537	34,986	51,801
2005	14,959,763	358,491	145,237	77,728	33,270	52,524
% Chge YTD	1%	4%	-2%	0%	5%	-1%
<b>Average Yield Per Case -</b>						
			<b>Current</b>	<b>Previous</b>	<b>Last</b>	
			<b>Week</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Year</b>	
(Inedible Included)			42.47	42.59	42.24	
(Inedible Excluded)			39.04	39.24	38.83	

IN-LINE PRODUCTION (of total production; lbs. in thousands;  
may include limited amount of off-line source material)

	CASES BROKEN		LIQUID WHOLE	
	Cases	% of Total	Lbs. % of Total	
CURRENT WEEK	583,676	47.1%	17,112	54.6%
PREVIOUS WEEK	585,507	48.7%	16,632	54.2%
LAST YEAR	522,833	40.9%	13,324	44.7%

**BROILER HATCHERY**

STATE	Broiler Eggs Set in		Broiler Chicks Placed	
	19 Selected States		in 19 Selected States	
	MAR 18	MAR 25	MAR 18	MAR 25
	Thousand			
AL	31,929	31,790	22,003	21,700
AR	30,561	30,151	25,107	25,275
DE	3,781	3,781	5,319	5,126
FL	1,365	1,364	1,541	1,486
GA	34,004	35,187	27,986	28,989
KY	6,763	7,124	*5,815	5,741
LA	4,136	3,756	3,830	3,831
MD	8,964	8,628	5,091	5,700
MS	18,326	18,528	16,514	16,428
NC	*18,603	18,043	*15,839	15,323
OK	6,510	6,659	4,185	5,095
PA	*4,052	3,746	*2,986	2,936
SC	5,171	5,382	4,721	4,846
TX	15,180	13,455	13,071	13,101
VA	6,607	6,561	5,646	5,098
CA, MO, TN, & WV	*17,863	17,987	*17,668	16,443

19 State Total \*213,815 212,142 \*177,322 177,118

Previous Year Total 213,135 212,819 176,235 176,843

Pct. of Prev. Year 100 100 101 100

\* Revised

**WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING** Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 06-May-06 is estimated at 163.1 million head. This compares to 162.3 million head the previous week and to 166.1 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 166.0 million head and the composite weighted average price was 72.63 cents per pound.

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES - WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES**

(CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 03/23/06-03/29/06

CURRENT LDS 79.25 FUTURE LDS 81.75 TOTAL LDS 161.00

	SE		NE		MW		
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	51.20	—	51.50	53.33	56.00	—	27.00
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00
GL W J	—	—	66.75	68.50	49.35	—	6.75
GL W XL	—	—	58.19	61.99	45.53	49.07	31.50
GL W LG	—	68.00	—	65.67	49.59	49.00	31.75
GL W MD	44.00	—	36.67	37.71	31.48	—	22.50
GL W SM	25.00	27.50	24.06	26.62	—	—	7.25
GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	57.75	—	1.75
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	34.00	35.70	56.00
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	—	—	33.50	10.00
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	—	36.25	5.00
NRBS - 36	—	—	—	—	—	32.00	5.00

**MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 25-MAR-2006**

SELECTED	CW	PW	PCT CHG	
CONSUMING CENTERS	THOUSANDS		PW	LY
Atlanta	25.8	27.3	-5	-34
Boston	3.0	3.2	-6	-6
Chicago	90.4	82.2	10	-11
Detroit	24.7	19.3	28	-23
Kansas City	4.6	3.8	21	-19
Los Angeles	113.3	113.2	0	-17
New Orleans	5.6	5.5	2	-36
New York	32.4	33.7	-4	-9
St. Louis	18.4	13.6	35	7
San Francisco	18.2	18.7	-3	-39
Total	336.4	320.5	5	-18
4 Week Moving Avg.	327.2			

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED W/E 25-Mar-06**

	YOUNG		YOUNG	OLD	TOTAL
	HENS	TOMS	BREEDERS		TURKEYS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
Head	1,924	2,517	38	13	4,492
Avg Wt	17.02	37.96	26.86	31.77	28.88
Last week	1,821	2,645	22	17	4,505
Same wk yr ago	1,468	2,502	15	6	3,991
Avg Wt	16.03	38.03	26.38	28.44	29.88
To-date/2006	20,488	29,649	279	72	50,488
To-date/2005	18,300	30,039	309	42	48,690

**NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS**

Week ending 25-Mar-06

(Preliminary) (Released 1:00 Eastern Time)

—YOUNG TURKEYS—			OLD	TOTAL TURKEYS
THOUSAND	PCT CHG	AVG	BANDED	AVG
HEAD	PW	LIVE WT	THOUSAND HEAD	LIVE WT
North East	774	5	23.45	(A) 777 23.45
South Atlantic	690	-6	31.64	(A) 693 31.64
North Central	1,975	-6	33.86	(A) 1,978 33.86
South Central	708	4	19.44	(A) 710 19.44
West	332	41	26.18	(A) 334 26.18
U.S. total	4,479(B)	0	28.88	13 4,492 28.88
To-date				
2006	50,417(B)		72	50,488
To-date				
2005	48,648(B)		42	48,690

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: this week 38,000; for the current year to date 279,000; for last year to date 309,000.

**LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION** (Preliminary)

W/E 25-MAR-2006	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
Head	162,089	1,082	1,562	2,644	513
Avg Wt	5.36	3.41	8.11	6.19	6.65
Last week	162,304	1,001	1,441	2,442	519
Same wk yr ago	151,161	1,711	1,356	3,067	503
Avg Wt	5.19	3.23	8.14	5.40	6.83
To-date/2006	1,926,751	14,597	17,219	31,816	6,064
To-date/2005	1,877,190	17,631	15,677	33,308	6,102

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 164.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 164.1 million head, or 0.8 million less than estimated available.

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER**

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 01-Apr-06

CLASS	CW - 04/01/06(1)	PW - 03/25/06
-----THOUSAND HEAD-----		
Broiler/fryer	165,667(2)	162,318
Light hens	1,184	1,080
Heavy hens	1,424	1,556
Total	168,275	164,954

(1)ESTIMATED (2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 01-Apr-06 is 164.9 million head compared to 156.9 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 166.0 million head or 1.1 million more than estimated available. For the week of 08-Apr-06 the estimated available is 163.5 million head.

**ESTIMATED U.S. FRYER SLAUGHTER/  
FRYER AVAILABILITY COMPARISON**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
February 18	164.3	164.0	100%	5.38
25	160.4	163.9	98%	5.48
March 4	160.3	163.4	98%	5.34
11	162.6	164.2	99%	5.32
18	164.3	164.3	100%	5.31
25	164.1	164.9	100%	5.36
Year to date	1950.2	1957.9	100%	
April 1		164.9		
8		163.5		

**FINAL BROILER/FRYER** Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook ice-packed broiler/fryers (includes branded product) to be delivered to first receivers at major market centers week of 27-MAR-2006 (cents per lb)

U.S. GRADE A		COMPOSITE	
MAJ	WTD AVG	LDS	WTD AVG
Chicago	48.00-51.00	50.75	36 : 53.15
Los Angeles	75.00	73.02	66 : 69.73
New York	50.00-53.00	51.91	23 : 56.79

**COMPOSITE WTD AVG PRICES FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS**

Change from			
27-MAR-2006	20-MAR-2006	20-MAR-2006	28-MAR-2005
60.55	-.34	60.89	73.65

NUMBER OF LOADS 560

**MONTHLY COMPOSITE WTD AVG PRICE FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS**

Month	Weighted Average	Loads
March	61.77	2635.20

**QUARTERLY COMPOSITE WTD AVG PRICE FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS**

Month	Weighted Average	Loads
January-March	62.67	7463.00

**WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS,** FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	LBS (000)
8-16 LB HENS				
EASTERN REGION 3/	68-70	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	68-69.5	69.5	69.50	40
WESTERN REGION 5/	68	-	-	-

**16-24 LB TOMS**

EASTERN REGION	68-70	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	68-69.5	69.5	69.50	40
WESTERN REGION	68	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F. 2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days. 3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting. 4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting. 5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting.

**COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS -** Selected Centers  
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

		Frozen Eggs/LBS	Turkeys/LBS	Processed other Poultry/LBS
AM	03/27/06	3,363	79,377	63,293
AM	03/01/06	3,338	69,688	69,000
CHG		25	9689	-5707
PCT CHG		1%	14%	-8%

**HEN MARKETS**

**HEAVY TYPE** (7 pounds and up)\* Final Price, Generally for slaughter the week of 27-MAR-06

REGIONS	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
Southeast (1)	9.5-15.25 CENTS/LB.	12-13	12.60
Southeast (2)	TFEWR		
South Central(1)	9-15.5 CENTS/LB.	11-13	12.29

(1) At Farm Buyer Loading (2) At Farm Producer Loading

\*Weights under 7 lbs. subject to discount.

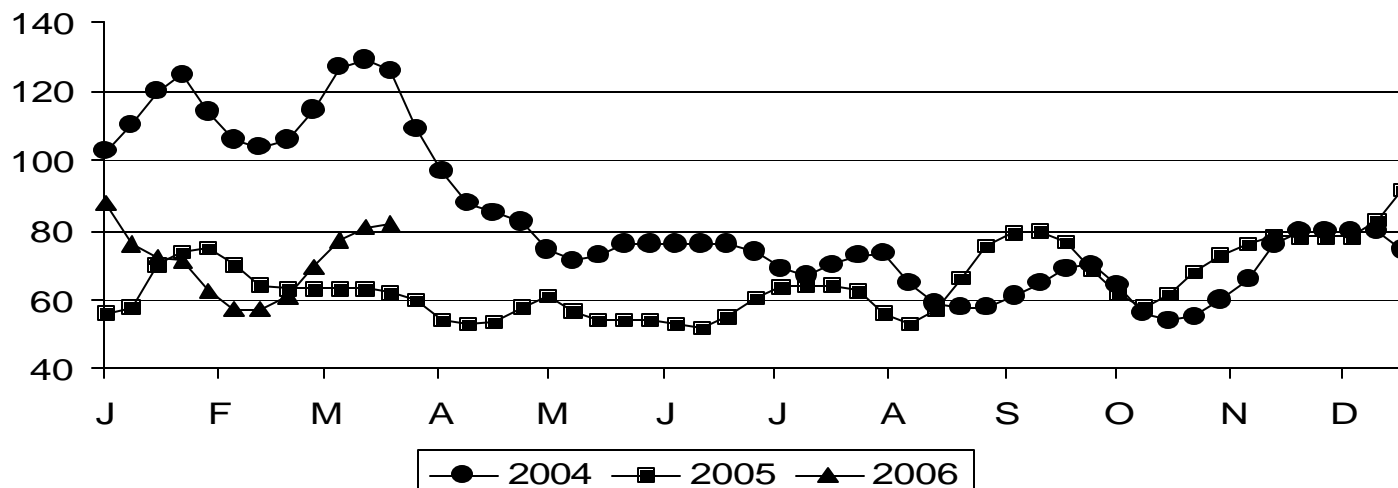
**LIGHT TYPE** Cents per head, generally for removal within the next 10 days (includes handling, freight and any other charges, weights average about 3.50 pounds)

24-MAR-06	REMOVAL COST	
REGIONS	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern	3-11	9-10
South Central	Too Few To Report	
North Central	2-10	5-9

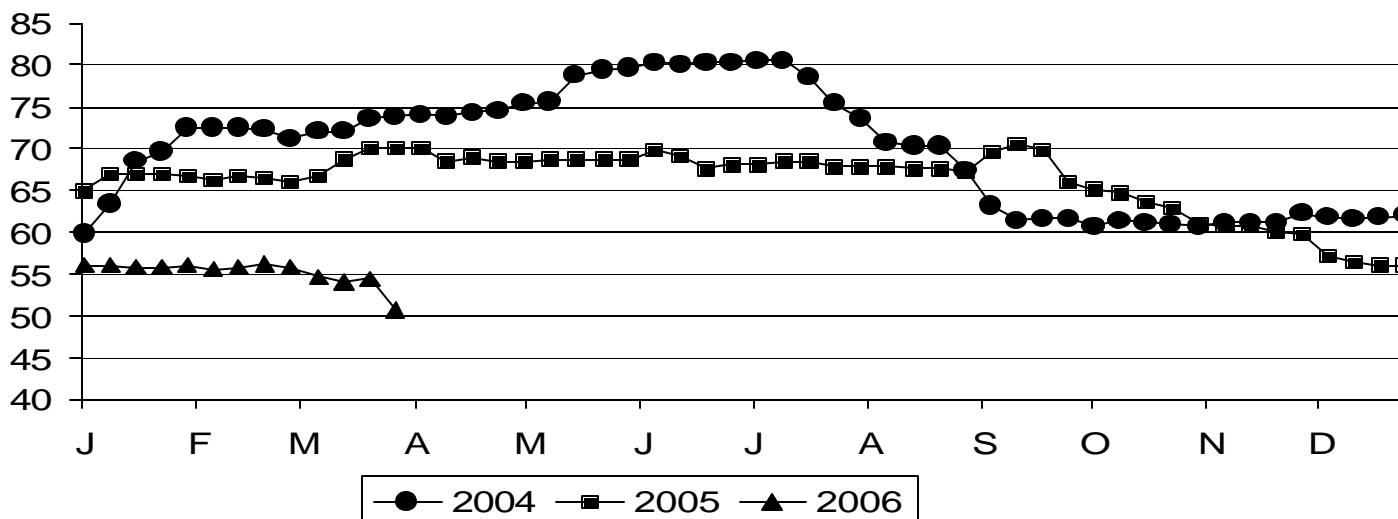
**COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT** (Receipts From Producers)

W/E 25-MAR-2006	CASES	PERCENT CHANGE FROM
REGIONS	(IN THOUS)	PW LY
North Atlantic	217.9	2 1
East North Central	630.5	2 1
West North Central	290.1	-1 -1
South Atlantic	197.1	0 -7
South Central	62.8	-3 -10
West	186.4	-5 -27
Total	1584.8	0 -5
Matched Plants reporting		84 84
Areas Covered: North Atlantic (ME,VT,MA,RI,CT,NH,NY,PA,NJ,MC,DE)		
East North Central (WI,IL,MI,OH,IN) West North Central (IA,MN,MO,KS,SD)		
South Atlantic (SC,NC,VA,GA,FL,KY) South Central (TN,AL,AR,MS,OK)		
West (CA,CO,WA,OR,UT)		

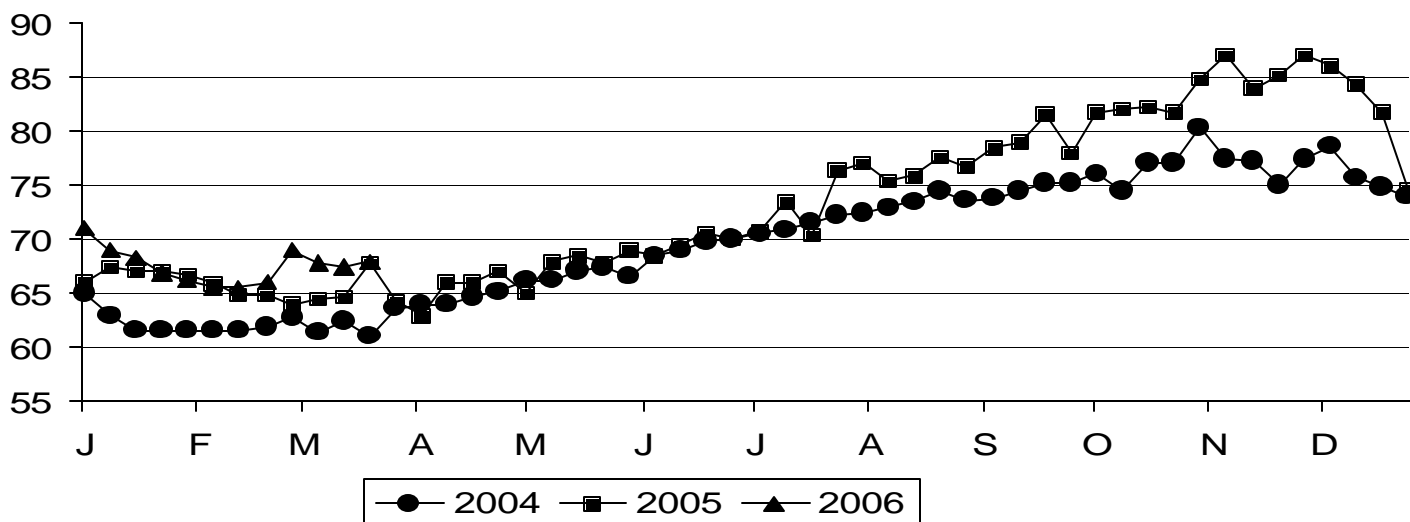
### New York Large Weekly Average Price cents per dozen



### Chicago Broiler/Fryer Weighted Average Prices cents per pound



### Eastern Weekly Average Prices For 8-16 LB Hen Turkey cents per pound



**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

<b>Washington, DC</b>	Voice	(202)720-6911
Mike Sheats	Fax	(202)720-2403
Branch Chief		

<b>Atlanta, GA</b>	Voice	(404)562-5850
Johnny Freeman,	Fax	(404)562-5875
Officer-in-Charge		

<b>Jackson, MS</b>	Voice	(601)965-4662
Gary Brown,	Fax	(601)359-1175
(Southern States Area Supervisor)		

<b>Des Moines, IA</b>	Voice	(515)284-4471
Mary L. Adkins,	Fax	(515)284-4468
(Officer-In-Charge)	Recorded	(515)284-4545

<b>Long Beach, CA</b>	Voice	(562)388-7337
Jim Derby,	Fax	(562)432-8295
Officer-in-Charge	Recorded	(213)534-1335